

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the present application, claims 1-11 and 13-20 were examined. Claims 1-11 and 13-20 stand rejected.

Accordingly, claims 1-11 and 13-20 are pending in the present application. No new matter is added.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough searching and consideration of the present invention and respond to the comments in the Office Action as follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action states that claims 1-11 and 13-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Anuff et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,327,628). In particular, the Office Action states that Anuff et al. teach each and every claim limitation recited in claim 1-11 and 13-20. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action states that Anuff et al. disclose all the elements recited in claims 1-11 and 13-20, including at least one user profile, where the user profile is related to a service through configuration of the service access interface, and related to a user access interface through a configuration of a portal directory. Column 3, lines 1-57, Figure 2 and associated text and column 15, lines 47-67 are recited for this proposition.

A review of the pertinent sections of the disclosure by Anuff et al. fails to reveal any discussion or disclosure related to a user profile. At most, Anuff et al. appear to discuss user groups and templates, which do not constitute:

at least one user profile for defining customized parameters related
to access to said service or application,

as is recited in claims 1-9 of the present invention. Because claims 1-9 recite elements that are not disclosed in the cited prior art by Anuff et al., Applicants respectfully submit that a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) cannot be maintained.

Claims 10-11 and 13-17 similarly recite:

connecting at least one information engine with a standardized interface;
connecting a database with said standardized interface to permit information exchange between said database and said information engine; and
defining user customized information access based on a user profile.

These elements are not taught in the disclosure by Anuff et al. While Anuff et al. appear to teach access to resources such as applications, databases, services, and so forth, there is no recitation of an information engine connected with a standardized interface that is also connected to a database to permit information exchange between the database and the information engine. Similarly, Anuff et al. fail to disclose a definition of user customized information access based on a user profile, as recited in claims 10-11 and 13-17. Because claims 10-11 and 13-17 recite a number of elements not disclosed by Anuff et al., applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of those claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is overcome, and respectfully request that it be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 18, 19 and 20 similarly recite the use of a user profile, separate from a user group, used to define customized information access, while claims 18 and 19 also recite an information engine connected with a standardized interface is also connected to a database to permit information exchange between the database and information engine. Accordingly, claims 18-20 recite elements that are not disclosed by Anuff et al. Because the claims recite elements that are not found in the cited prior art reference by Anuff et al., applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is overcome, and respectfully request that it be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Premature Final Rejection

Applicants respectfully submit that the final rejection lodged in the most recent Office Action is premature because elements recited in the originally filed claims distinguish the claims over the cited prior art references, regardless of the amendments made by applicants in the previous response. Accordingly, the references cited in the rejection of the claims in the most

recent Office Action should have been fully applied in the first Office Action, particularly with respect to the recitation in the claims of a standardized interface connected to an information engine and a database to permit information exchange between the database and the information engine, as well as the recitation of a user profile for defining user customized information access. Accordingly, a well defined issue or set of issues has not been reached in the present prosecution that would lead to speedy progress in the application examination procedure, but rather the present final rejection lends itself to piecemeal prosecution. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the final rejection of claims 1-11 and 13-20 be withdrawn, and that the application be maintained pending before the Primary Examiner to decide the issue of premature final rejection. MPEP §706.07(c)

Conclusion

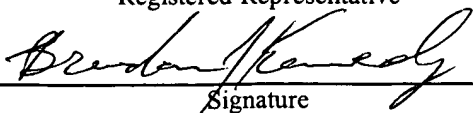
Applicants have reviewed the prior art made of record, as well as the cited prior art references in great detail, and respectfully believe that the present invention recited in claims 1-11 and 13-20 patentably distinguish over all of the prior art references. Applicants also respectfully believe that the present response addresses all outstanding issues raised in the most recent Office Action.

In view of the above discussion, applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and earnestly solicit notice to that effect. If it is believed that progress in the prosecution of the application may readily be made through an interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned counsel at the number provided below.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 30, 2004:

Brendan J. Kennedy

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative



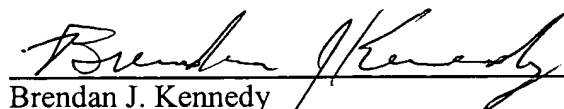
Signature

July 30, 2004

Date of Signature

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Respectfully submitted,



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